



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 281**

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 5906

*House of Representatives, April 2, 2013*

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. BARAM of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING PRESCRIPTIONS FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND USE OF THE CONNECTICUT PRESCRIPTION MONITORING AND REPORTING SYSTEM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 21a-317 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2014*):

3 Every practitioner who distributes, administers or dispenses any  
4 controlled substance or who proposes to engage in distributing,  
5 prescribing, administering or dispensing any controlled substance  
6 within this state shall (1) obtain a certificate of registration issued by  
7 the Commissioner of Consumer Protection in accordance with the  
8 provisions of this chapter, and (2) prior to distributing, prescribing,  
9 administering or dispensing any such controlled substance, review the  
10 electronic prescription drug monitoring program established pursuant  
11 to section 21a-254 for the patient's previous history of controlled  
12 substance use, if any.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2014</i>	21a-317
-----------	------------------------	---------

***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

In subdivision (2), "21-254" was changed to "21a-254" for accuracy.

**GL**            *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

---

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill places requirements upon doctors and results in no fiscal impact to the Department of Consumer Protection.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 5906*****AN ACT CONCERNING PRESCRIPTIONS FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND USE OF THE CONNECTICUT PRESCRIPTION MONITORING AND REPORTING SYSTEM.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires medical practitioners to review their patient's history of controlled substance use each time before distributing, prescribing, administering, or dispensing a controlled substance to the patient. It requires them to do so by accessing the electronic prescription drug monitoring program administered by the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). Currently, these practitioners must register with DCP.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2014

**BACKGROUND*****Practitioners***

By law, a "practitioner" is a physician, dentist, veterinarian, podiatrist, optometrist, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, nurse-midwife, scientific investigator, or other person licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to, or to administer, a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research in Connecticut. Practitioners also include any hospital or other institution licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to engage in these activities.

***Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring Program***

Under this program, DCP collects prescription information twice a month from pharmacies on Schedules II, III, IV, and V controlled substances (drugs that are acceptable for medical use but may be

abused). Pharmacists are required to electronically report certain information to DCP, including the date a drug was dispensed, dispenser identification and prescription number, and certain patient identification data. The information is aggregated and made available to medical practitioners and others so that they can track their patients' history of using controlled substances and work to prevent the drugs' improper or illegal use.

**Related Bills**

HB 6389, reported favorably by the Public Health Committee, also requires practitioners who distribute, administer, or dispense controlled substances, or who seek to do so, to register for access to the Electronic Prescription Drug Monitoring program. It takes effect October 1, 2013.

HB 6406, reported favorably by the General Law Committee, expands the reach of the program to require reporting by out-of-state pharmacies and others providing prescription drugs in-state; allows the DCP to require reporting on other drug products as new situations require; increases the frequency of the reporting by dispensers from twice monthly to weekly; extends legal protections to practitioners who request information from the program; and requires practitioners to register to access the program, in addition to registering with the DCP.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17      Nay 1      (03/12/2013)